Companiss wound up by BIFR

*71. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) what is the number of companies wound up by BIFR during the last three years; and

(b) the details of each company including the capital, the number of workers, the total accumulated losses etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Section 20(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act provides that where the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) after making enquiry under Section 16 and after consideration of all the relevant facts and circumstances and after giving an opportunity of being heard to all concerned parties, is of the opinion that it is just and equitable that the sick industrial company should be wound up, it may record and forward its opinion to the concerned High Court. As on 31-10-1993, the BIFR had recommended 247 cases to the concerned High Courts for winding up.

As per the information provided by BIFR, the total net worth and total accumulated losses of these 247 companies recommended for winding up are of the order of Rs. 274 crores and Rs. 1081 crores respectively. The number of workers in 222 companies from which information is available with the BIFR is 108240. The information on net worth, cumulative losses, number of workers etc., is largely based on the reference made by the respective companies. These references were received by the BIFR in different years and relate to different accounting periods.

Commercial Loan from World Bank

*72. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought a dollar 20 million commercial loan from the World Bank;

(b) if so, when was the loan sought;

(c) the purpose for which this fresh loan has been sought; and

(d) by when the loan is expected to be obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir. Loans from the World Bank are not on commercial terms. However, the Government has negotiated several loans from the World Bank for financing development in various sectors. As the terms of World Bank loans are better than commercial terms the Government has relied upon a regular flow of such resources as part of its financing strategy.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Publication of Books

*73. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) which is the authority responsible for selecting books for publication in the Publications Division;

(b) whether book|title-wise monitoring is done with regard to its sales; and

(c) if so, the major conclusions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The authority to select books for publication rests with the Publications Division.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Monitoring of sales helps Publications Division to evolve its sales strategy and decide on re-printing of titles.

New Channels of Doordarshan

*74. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA;
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the new channels opened by Doordarshan in the recent weeks;

(b) whether it is a fact that TV viewers whose TV sets are equipped with normal antennae are not able to get the Programmes of the new channels and they have to go in for additional and costly antennae or other costly equipments for their TV sets to view the new channels; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take so that the programmes of the new channels are easily available to the viewers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The details are as follows:

(i) Metro (Entertainment) Channel:—

This channel is available terrestrially at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Lucknow. In the rest of the country it can be received through an appropriate dish antenna.

(ii) Sports Channel;

(iii) Business News and Current Affairs Channel;

(iv) Enrichment Channel.

(v) Music Channel:—

These channels are available terrestrially for a limited range in Delhi through the use of a low cost UHF antenna. In the rest of the country they can be received through an appropritae dish antenna.

(c) Some of the cities identified for extending the terrestrial transmission of the metro channel are:—

(i) Bhopal,

(ii) Cuttack,

(iii) Ahmedabad,

(iv) Patna,

(v) Hyderabad,

(vi) Thiruvananthapuram,

(vii) Banaglore

and (viii) Jaipur.

बिहार में बिजली की कमी

*75. **श्री ब्रह्मदेव आनन्द पासवान** : क्या **विद्युत** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के औद्योगिक पिछड़ेपन के मूल में बिजली की कमी का होना है;

(ख) क्या अधिकांश उद्योग रांची, जमशेदपुर, बोकारो, धनबाद और हजारीबाग जिलों में संकेन्द्रित हैं;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इन जिलों में स्थित उद्योगों के लिये प्रतिदिन 600 मेगावाट बिजली की आवश्यकता है जबकि उन्हें सिर्फ 100 मेगावाट बिजली मिल रही है;